

Minutes: Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council (ECICC)

May 2, 2008 10:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

First St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Hastings, Nebraska

Ruth Miller, chair, opened the meeting of the Early Childhood Interagency Coordinating Council on May 2, 2008, at 10:30 a.m. at First St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Hastings, Nebraska .

Members present: Kathy Anderson, Kim Chase, Marcia Corr, Heather Gill, Laura Good Buffalo, Louise Hall-Mountain, Kathy Halverson-Rigatuso, Jane Happe, Barbara Jackson, Sara Johnson, Betty Medinger, Michele Merrill, Ruth Miller, Lynn Mruz, Mary Phillips, 'Mike' Queen, Carrie Rasmussen, Stephanie Rau, Deb Ross, Barbara Schliesser, Janet Staehr, John Street, Carey Winkler

Members absent: Sue Adams, Eric Dunning, Mary Fran Flood, LeaAnn Johnson, Marjorie Kostelnik, Sally Lindenberger, Paul Matson, Susan McWilliams, Tammy Mittelstaedt, Nancy Montgomery, Todd Reckling, Roger Reikofski, DiAnna Schimek, Connie Shonka, Joni Thomas, Joyce Thomas, Derek Weimer, Linda Zinke

Also in attendance:

ECICC Staff: Terry Rohren, facilitator; Pam Kasl, secretary, *pro tempore*

Technical assistants: *Early Childhood Training Center:* Carol Fichter, Carol Puffer; *Munroe-Meyer Institute:* Mark Smith; *PTI-Nebraska:* Connie Shockley; *Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS):* Lynne Brehm, Amy Bunnell, Shirley Pickens-White; *Nebraska Department of Education (NDE):* Melody Hobson, Joan Luebbers; Rae Anderson

Guests: Pam Dobrovolny, Grand Island Public Schools, special education; Sally Hansen, ESU #9, birth to five programs; Jackie Zeckser, Head Start; Jana Zeckser, parent.

AGENDA:

I. Opening

Ruth Miller welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made. Terry Rohren shared that this was an open meeting and the Open Meetings Act was posted on the front table.

II. Approval of Minutes

Action: Motion by Barb Schliesser, seconded by Deb Ross: To approve the ECICC minutes of November 16, 2007, as submitted and provided to members in the pre-meeting packet. There was no discussion. The motion to approve the minutes passed by unanimous voice vote; there were no abstentions.

2009 Meeting Dates

Ruth Miller announced that the proposed 2009 meeting dates were in the meeting packet.

III. Positive Behavior Intervention Support

Lynne Brehm shared information on the Positive Behavior Intervention and Support program. A handout was provided that listed the trainings that have been held since June, 2007. The Statewide Leadership Team is comprised of 50 members. More information can be found at www.nde.state.ne.us/ECH/PBiS.html. Nebraska applied and became a Center on the Social and Emotional Foundation for Early Learning state. Training and technical assistance is included in this grant. Work is beginning with four pilot projects in Lincoln, Omaha, Plattsmouth and Hastings. Web sites were listed for more information.

IV. APR Report Findings

- Barb Schliesser, Amy Bunnell and Joan Luebbers reported about the Annual Performance Report (APR). Each year in February the APR is submitted to OSEP to provide an update of

activities that took place the past year and the plans for the coming year. The report includes 15 areas of information such as outcomes, family survey results, transition, 45-day timeline, and monitoring.

- A preliminary determination showed that Nebraska, Part C has met determinations this year as they did the previous year.
- A Results Matter brochure and training brochures were distributed.
- The Family Surveys are being completed and results will be tallied shortly.
- It is anticipated that the Part C Federal Regulations will be released in the fall. It is likely that some of the changes will affect Rule 51 in Nebraska.
- A Services Coordination Training will be held on June 16 in Kearney and the Birth to Five Summer Conference will be on June 17 & 18.

OTHER

Ruth Miller pointed out some roster changes that were listed in the member packet. A current roster was also included.

Carey Winkler shared that a Medicaid Reform Work Group has talked about proposed changes to Medicaid in which families who have children on the Home and Community-Based waiver or Katie Beckett fund would face implementation of premiums based upon a sliding fee schedule. Some concerns were raised in a letter to the Governor and some specific recommendations were sent. A reply from Vivian Chaumont, DHHS Director of Medicaid & Long-Term Care was included in the meeting packet.

V. Working Lunch

Family Story

Jana Zeckser shared her family story. Jana has four children, two of which have received special education services. Her oldest son has experienced some delays and one of her youngest daughters has had numerous health issues which have required many trips to Omaha. The difficulties of navigating the medical system and travel to Omaha were discussed.

Provider Panel

A panel of providers from the Grand Island and Hastings area shared information about their programs. Panel members included: Pam Dobrovolsky, Grand Island Public Schools; Sally Hansen, ESU #9; Jackie Zeckser, Head Start; Sara Johnson, Services Coordination; and Deb Ross, Head Start. The group shared many experiences and thought that the connections between agencies are getting stronger and awareness of the program is greater.

VI. Public Comment

Carol Fichter thanked those who provided letters of support for the ECTC application to the National Center of Professional Development for the technical assistance grant, training of trainers program. The program would include an advisory group to guide the program planning, a Professional Development Council to include a broad group of stakeholders, and a two-day symposium on professional development to support inclusion. Carol should know by June 1 if they are one of four states selected for the grant.

Working Group Sessions:

The Gaps and Barriers Committee and the Legislative and Communications Committee met in separate working groups from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

VII. Reports from Working Sessions

Gaps and Barriers Committee (GBC)

Carey Winkler reported for the Gaps and Barriers Committee.

- The Transportation Committee is looking at regulations and will be making recommendations.
- IDEA-Part C State Performance Plan (SPP) and Annual Performance Report (APR): has had few changes, finishing family survey, verifications are up.
- Planning Region Team Self Assessments: helpful to identify areas of focus.
- File Reviews: finishing 3-year cycle. Self assessment model is being considered.
- Results Matter: a “clean up your data” e-mail will be going out with the end of the school year.
- High Scope is transferring to School Success.
- Results Matter is having a task force meeting. By 2010 all the data will be complete.

Legislative and Communications Committee (LCC)

Ruth Miller reported for the Legislative and Communications Committee.

- Handouts were provided on Interim Study Resolutions and Carryover Bills.
- Kim Chase was selected as the new chairperson of the LCC and Jane Happe was selected as the new vice-chairperson.
- Ruth shared that the DHHS licensing rules and regulations for child care are out-dated but have not been rewritten as they have been put on hold. Discussion was held regarding writing a letter from the ECICC to DHHS to ask them to review the regulations in the interest of children in the state. A motion was made by Deb Ross and seconded by Kim Chase to write the above stated letter. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote; there were no abstentions.
- A recommendation was made by the LCC that any letter from the ECICC first be approved by the Steering Committee or the full Council. A motion was made by Mary Phillips and seconded by Barbara Schliesser that any correspondence on ECICC letterhead be approved by the Steering Committee or entire Council. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote; there were no abstentions.

Family Leadership Team

Carey Winkler shared for the Family Leadership Team.

- A medical notebook was put together for families to organize their medical records and keep track of information and questions. Families were asked for input.
- A letter will be written to DHHS to thank them for their response to their concerns.
- A phone call was held with all new Council parents prior to the meeting. They will also send out a “get to know you” letter. In future calls they may add local PRT parents to share regional gaps and barriers.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

MEETING HANDOUTS:

- ✓ Roster Updates, February 15, 2008 and May 2, 2008
- ✓ Updated Roster, May 2, 2008
- ✓ Minutes: ECICC Steering Committee
- ✓ Letter from Vivianne Chaumont, Division of Medicaid & Long-Term Care
- ✓ Report: Head Start State Collaboration Office (HSSCO), April-May 2008
- ✓ Early Childhood linkages and Relationships to ECICC
- ✓ ECICC Proposed Meeting Dates for 2009
- ✓ Listening Session Questions
- ✓ Report: Early Childhood Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (ECPBiS)
- ✓ Report: Early Childhood Assessment: Results Matter in Nebraska
- ✓ Brochure: Results Matter in Nebraska
- ✓ Conference Registration: Birth to Five Early Childhood Summer Conference